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# Endorses CIA's

# Secret Funds

Merry-Go-Round, 23-A

Times Wire Services

#### WASHINGTON

**CPYRGHT** 

House study panel endorses the Central Intelligence Agency's much - criticized subsidizing of various private organizations, and President Johnson agrees with the group's findings, it was reported yesterday.

At Johnson's direction, the White House made public yesterday a preliminary review of CIA operations, and press secretary George Christian emphasized that Johnson agrees with the interim conclusions.

THE, REPORT came from Undersecretary of State Nicholas Katzenbach, who is conducting the review along with CIA Director Richard Helms and John W. Gardner, secretary of health, education and welfare.

The panel's preliminary report made these points:

 ✓ The CIA is "vitally important" to U.S. security and the current controversy over its secret financing of private organizations must not obscure its value to the United States.

- The CIA followed national policy and acted "with the approval of senior interdepartmental review committees, including the secretaries of state; nd defense or their representaives."

CIA financial support "enbled many far-sighted and couageous Americans to serve heir country in times of chalenge and danger to the United States and the free world.".

#### **CPYRGHT**

MEANWHILE, a 14-member committee of senators and representatives to watch over U.S. intelligence - gathering was called for yesterday by U.S. Rep. Paul Rogers. D-Fla.

The joint committee would scrutinize not only the information - gathering activity of the CIA, but also the U.S. Information Agency and all arms of thei military.

Also in Washington, Rep. H. R. Gross, R-Iowa, said that the CIA has admitted it made a mistake when its agents entered a home of a CIA employe without a search warrant.

The incident happened July 24, when an agent looking for an apartment found classified information in the home of Hans V. Tofte, also a CIA employe. Tofte was dropped from the CIA

last October.

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